

Form

Referral of a proposal under s. 38 of the EP Act

PART A: PROPONENT AND REFERRER INFORMATION AND PROPOSAL DESCRIPTION			
Referrer information			
Who is referring this proposal?		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Proponent <input type="checkbox"/> Decision-making authority <input type="checkbox"/> Community member/third party	
Name: Rebecca Wright		Signature	
Position	Manager, Environmental Approvals and Biodiversity	Organisation	BHP Iron Ore Pty Ltd (BHPIO)
Email	Rebecca.Wright@bhp.com	Phone	9609 3333
Address	125	St Georges Tce	
	Perth WA	WA	6000
Date	20 February 2025		
Does the referrer request that the EPA treat any part of the proposal information in the referral as confidential? <i>Provide confidential information in a separate attachment.</i>		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	
Does the referrer confirm that they consent to receive correspondence electronically?		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	
Referral declaration for proponent and Authorised representative: I, Rebecca Wright declare that I am authorised to refer this proposal on behalf of BHP Iron Ore Pty Ltd and further declare that the information contained in this form is true and not misleading. Date: 20 February 2025			
Proponent information			
Name of the proponent/s <i>Include Trading Name if relevant</i>		BHP Iron Ore Pty Ltd <input type="checkbox"/>	
Australian Company Number(s) <input type="checkbox"/>		46 008 700 981	
OR Australian Business Number(s) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>			
Pre-referral discussions			
Have you had pre-referral discussions with the EPA (including the EPA Services of DWER)?		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	

<p><i>If so, provide name, date, and overview of discussions.</i></p>	<p>A pre-referral meeting was held on 22 January 2025 between BHPIO and EPA Services representatives (Danielle Griffiths, Emma Sugden, Gaynor Owen, Rory Neale and Nathan Sumner. BHPIO introduced the Proposal, the key environmental factor, potential impacts, mitigation hierarchy, environmental outcomes and management measures.</p>
<p>Proposal information</p>	
<p>Proposal name</p>	<p>Mining Area C- Southern Flank Significant Amendment</p>
<p>What is the proposal? (Include general description in the Instructions and template: How to identify the content of a proposal)</p>	<p>The Proposal includes construction and operation of two new surplus water pipelines and a surface water diversion structure, creek discharge, managed aquifer recharge, groundwater supplementation and an increase in the abstraction of groundwater and disposal of surplus water.</p>
<p>Have you provided electronic spatial data, maps, and figures in the appropriate format?</p>	<p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No</p>
<p>What type of proposal is being referred?</p> <p><i>For significant amendment or derived proposal, provide the associated existing Ministerial statement number/s</i></p> <p><i>For a proposal under an assessed planning scheme, provide the scheme number and name</i></p>	<p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> significant proposal. <i>Choose which type of significant proposal</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> new proposal <input type="checkbox"/> significant amendment (proposal only) <input type="checkbox"/> significant amendment (conditions only) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> significant amendment (proposal and conditions) <input type="checkbox"/> strategic proposal <input type="checkbox"/> derived proposal <input type="checkbox"/> proposals of a prescribed class <input type="checkbox"/> proposal under an assessed planning scheme
<p>Proposal content: <i>Complete the corresponding template (Proposal Content Document) from the Instructions and template: How to identify the content of a proposal for the type of proposal identified above. The completed form must be submitted with the referral.</i></p>	
<p>Alternatives</p>	<p>The Proposal is to ensure ongoing supply of iron ore from Mining Area C and Southern Flank and therefore there are no alternatives.</p>

PART B: ASSESSMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACTS

Environmental factors

<p>What are the likely significant environmental factors for this proposal?</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Benthic Communities and Habitat <input type="checkbox"/> Coastal Processes <input type="checkbox"/> Marine Environmental Quality <input type="checkbox"/> Marine Fauna <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Flora and Vegetation <input type="checkbox"/> Landforms <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Subterranean Fauna <input type="checkbox"/> Terrestrial Environmental Quality <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Terrestrial Fauna <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Inland Waters <input type="checkbox"/> Air Quality <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Greenhouse Gas Emissions <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Social Surroundings <input type="checkbox"/> Human Health
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For each of the environmental factors identified above, complete the following table, or provide the information in a supplementary report

Potential environmental impacts – Inland Waters		
1	EPA policy and guidance	Section 7.2
2	Receiving environment	Section 7.3
3	Likely environmental impacts	Section 7.5
4	Application of the mitigation hierarchy, including other statutory decision-making processes	Section 7.6
5	Assessment and significance of residual impacts	Section 7.7
6	Likely environmental outcomes	Section 7.8
Potential environmental impacts – Flora and Vegetation		
1	EPA policy and guidance	Section 8.2
2	Receiving environment	Section 8.3
3	Likely environmental impacts	Section 8.4
4	Application of the mitigation hierarchy, including other statutory decision-making processes	Section 8.5
5	Assessment and significance of residual impacts	Section 8.6
6	Likely environmental outcomes	Section 8.7
Potential environmental impacts – Terrestrial Fauna		
1	EPA policy and guidance	Section 9.2
2	Receiving environment	Section 9.3
3	Likely environmental impacts	Section 9.4

4	Application of the mitigation hierarchy, including other statutory decision-making processes	Section 9.5
5	Assessment and significance of residual impacts	Section 9.6
6	Likely environmental outcomes	Section 9.7
Potential environmental impacts – Subterranean Fauna		
1	EPA policy and guidance	Section 10.2
2	Receiving environment	Section 10.3
3	Likely environmental impacts	Section 10.4
4	Application of the mitigation hierarchy, including other statutory decision-making processes	Section 10.5
5	Assessment and significance of residual impacts	Section 10.6
6	Likely environmental outcomes	Section 10.7
Potential environmental impacts – Social Surroundings		
1	EPA policy and guidance	Section 11.2
2	Traditional Owners and Values	Section 11.3
3	Likely impacts	Section 11.4
4	Application of the mitigation hierarchy, including other statutory decision-making processes	Section 11.5
5	Assessment and significance of residual impacts	Section 11.6
6	Likely environmental outcomes	Section 11.7
Potential environmental impacts – Greenhouse Gas Emissions		
1	EPA policy and guidance	Section 12.2
2	Traditional Owners and Values	Section 12.3
3	Likely impacts	Section 12.4
4	Application of the mitigation hierarchy, including other statutory decision-making processes	Section 12.5
5	Assessment and significance of residual impacts	Section 12.6
6	Likely environmental outcomes	Section 12.7
Holistic impact assessment		

BHPIO has undertaken a holistic impact assessment for the Proposal. Please refer to Section 15 of the ERD.

Cumulative environmental impact assessment

BHPIO has undertaken a cumulative impact assessment for the Proposal. Please refer to Section 16 of the ERD.

Consultation

BHPIO has undertaken stakeholder consultation in relation to the Proposal. Please refer to Section 4 and 11.3 of the ERD

Supporting documents

Provide a list of the supporting documents:

- Mining Area C-Southern Flank Significant Amendment Proposal Content Document
- Mining Area C-Southern Flank Significant Amendment Environmental Review Document and supporting appendices

Has the referrer provided survey information according to the [Instructions and Form: IBSA Data Packages](#) and/or the [Instructions and form: IMSA Data Packages](#)

Yes
 No

Conclusion

Do you consider the proposal may have a significant effect on the environment?

BHPIO has undertaken an assessment of the potential significance of impacts in relation to the key environmental factors. Please refer to the attached ERD.

PART B: ASSESSMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACTS FOR SIGNIFICANT AMENDMENTS ONLY

Type of significant amendment	<input type="checkbox"/> significant amendment to the approved proposal <input type="checkbox"/> significant amendment to the implementation conditions <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> significant amendment to both the proposal and the implementation conditions
Information of the approved proposal	Section 2 of the ERD
Combined effects of the approved proposal and significant amendment	Refer to the ERD
Analysis of existing implementation conditions	Refer to Appendix 2 of the ERD
Previous changes to the Proposal and or implementation conditions	Section 2.1.1 of the ERD
Compliance	Section 2.1.2 of the ERD
Environmental Performance	Section 2.1.3 of the ERD
Control of implementation of significant amendment	Refer to ERD

PART B: ASSESSMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACTS FOR A PROPOSAL UNDER AN ASSESSED SCHEME ONLY

What new environmental issues are raised by the proposal that were not assessed during the assessment of the planning scheme?	N/A
How does the proposal not comply with the assessed scheme and/or the environmental conditions in the assessed planning scheme?	N/A

PART B: ASSESSMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACTS FOR DERIVED PROPOSALS ONLY

Demonstrate how the proposal will meet the environmental outcomes defined through the assessment of the strategic proposal	N/A
Provide an analysis of the existing implementation conditions of the related strategic proposal in relation to the derived proposal	N/A

PART C: OTHER APPROVALS AND REGULATION

Decision-making authorities and their approvals

Provide a table list of the decision-making authorities, associated legislation or agreement regulating the activity and the specific approval required. (Example table at the end of form)	BHP has considered other statutory decision-making authorities and processes. Refer to Section 7 to 13 of the ERD.
Provide a summary of the statutory decision-making processes you consider can mitigate the potential impacts of the proposal on the environment. (Note: this should be a summary of the information provided in Part B section 2.4). (Example table at the end of form)	Refer to Section 7-12 of the ERD.

Tenure and Local Government approvals

Location of proposal: a) street address, lot number, suburb, and nearest road intersection; or b) if remote, the nearest town and distance and direction from that town to the proposal site.	The Proposal is located 100 km northwest of Newman in the Shire of East Pilbara.
Name of the Local Government Authority in which the proposal is located.	Shire of East Pilbara

Is rezoning of any land required before the proposal can be implemented? If yes, please provide details.	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
What is the current land use on the property, and the extent (area in hectares) of the property?	Existing Iron Ore Mining. Please refer to the Proposal Content Document.
Does the proponent have the legal access required for the implementation of all aspects of the proposal? <i>If yes, provide details of legal access authorisations / agreements / tenure.</i> <i>If no, what authorisations / agreements / tenure is required and from whom?</i>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No Please refer to section 3.2 of the ERD.
Commonwealth Government approvals	
Does the proposal involve an action that may be or is a controlled action under the <i>Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999</i> (EPBC Act)?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No BHPIO is preparing a Validation Notice for the Proposal under its EPBC Strategic Program which was approved on 19 June 2017.
Has the proposed action been referred? If yes, when was it referred and what is the reference number (EPBC No.)?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No Date: _____ EPBC No.: _____
If referred, has a decision been made on whether the proposed action is a controlled action? If 'yes', check the appropriate box and provide the decision in an attachment.	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Decision – controlled action <input type="checkbox"/> Decision – not a controlled action
If the proposal is determined to be a controlled action, do you request that this proposal be assessed under a Bilateral Agreement or as an accredited assessment?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes - Bilateral <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Yes - Accredited
Is approval required from other Commonwealth Government/s for any part of the proposal? <i>If yes, describe.</i>	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No Approval:
Decision-making authority referrals ONLY	
What approval/s, under your authority, are required for this proposal? <i>Please provide details.</i>	N/A

Example Table: Other approvals

Decision-making authority	Legislation or Agreement regulating the activity	Approval required (and specify which proposal element the approval is related to)

Example table: Other statutory decision-making process which can mitigate potential impacts on the environment

Environmental impact	How is the impact regulated by other decision-making process(es)?	Limit(s) of the decision-making process(es) to regulate the impact eg time limits, excluded operations	Likely environmental outcome of decision-making process(es), and consistency with EPA objective	Conditions, enforcement, and review process required by decision-making process(es)	Stakeholder engagement in decision-making process(es)